crores and Rs. 266.12 crores respectively. The losses have occurred due to NPAs as well as other factors.

(b) and (c) According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI), its data reporting system does not generate the information regarding NPAs on account of default by beneficiaries under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and industry-wise.

(d) Banks were advised in May, 2001 to examine all cases of wilful default of Rs. one crore and above and file suits in such cases if not already done, in the Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs). DRTs have been given powers to attach property/assets before judgement and penal provisions for disobedience of Tribunal's order or for breach of any terms of the order have been provided. Banks have also been advised to file criminal cases where there are instances of cheating/ forgery/fraud by the wilful defaulters.

Expenditure Reforms Commission

2436. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expenditure Reforms Commission set up by Government has submitted its final report;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government on the recommendations made by the Committee;

(d) whether any target has been set up by the Commission to contain fiscal deficit progressively; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The Expenditure Reforms Commission has submitted in all 10 reports covering 36 Ministries/Departments and four specific issues namely, Food subsidy, Fertilizer Subsidy, autonomous institutions and optimizing staff strength. The recommendations of ERC have been sent to the concerned Ministries/Departments for implementation and so far

around 12,200 posts have been identified for abolition/already abolished. Recommendations of ERC on Food Subsidy as far it relates to modification of economic cost of wheat and rice has been implemented.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Meeting on cross-border drug traffic

2437. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether at a US sponsored two day international narcotics strategy meeting in Ankara held in February this year, India joined issue with Pakistan on cross border drug traffic mainly on the possible movement of 350 tonnes of heroin from Afghanistan; and

(b) if so, the stands taken by India and Pakistan on the issue and decisions taken to prevent the smuggling and otherwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a).

Customs exemption on life saving drugs

2438. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Finance is looking into customs exemption issue on life saving drugs; and

(b) if so, the names of the national and multi-national companies who are flouting rules of excise and customs and the details of amount pending against them as customs and excise duties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.